

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into an external storage medium;

a connector for detachably connecting the external storage medium to the external storage medium interface;

an external storage medium chamber for receiving the external storage medium connected to the external storage medium interface, the external storage medium chamber having an opening through which the external storage medium is received;

a lid for closing the opening of the external storage medium chamber;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part, wherein the master switch is a switch to be operated manually;

a detector for detecting that the lid is opened and closed; and

a controller for performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is on, and for performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is closed during the suspension of the power supply, wherein when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is turned on, the controller suspends the power supply from

the power supply part to at least the external storage medium while maintaining the power supply from the power supply part to the detector while the master switch is on, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control while the detector does not detect that the lid is closed.

2. (Original) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the external storage medium interface, the connector; and the external storage medium.

3. – 10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part, wherein the master switch is a switch to be operated manually;

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber;

a lid for closing the opening of the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

a detector for detecting whether the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium, and for detecting an operation relating to detachment of the external storage medium while the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium; and

a controller for performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the operation relating to the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector while the master switch is on, and for performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium during the suspension of the power supply, wherein the operation relating to the detachment of the external storage medium is the opening of a lid, and wherein when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is turned on, the controller suspends the power supply from the power supply part to at least the external storage medium while maintaining the power supply from the power supply part to the detector while the master switch is on, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control while the detector does not detect that the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium.

12. (Original) The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the external storage medium interface; the connector; and the external storage medium.

13. – 15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part, wherein the master switch is a switch to be operated manually;

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

a detector for detecting a first operation relating to detachment of the external storage medium while the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium, and a

second operation relating to attachment of the external storage medium, wherein the detector detects the second operation by detecting an operation of the chamber mechanism; and

a controller for performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the first operation while the master switch is on, and for performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the second operation during the suspension of the power supply, wherein the operation of the chamber mechanism is the opening of a lid for closing the opening of a chamber, wherein when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is turned on, the controller suspends the power supply from the power supply part to at least the external storage medium while maintaining the power supply from the power supply part to the detector while the master switch is on, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control while the detector does not detect the second operation.

17. (Original) The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, wherein the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and resumed under control of the controller to at least one of the following: all the components supplied with power from the power supply part except for the detector and the controller; the external storage medium interface; the connector; and the external storage medium.

18. – 20. (Cancelled).